

# Darwin Initiative: Half Year Report

(due 31 October 2013)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Project Ref No</b>                   | 20-023   |
| <b>Project Title</b>                    | An integrated approach to enhancing socio-ecological resilience in coastal Mozambique  |
| <b>Country(ies)</b>                     | Mozambique   |
| <b>Lead Organisation</b>                | Zoological Society of London   |
| <b>Collaborator(s)</b>                  | Associação do Meio Ambiente (AMA), Bioclimate, CORDIO East Africa, Faculdade de Ciências - Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Universidade Lúrio |
| <b>Project Leader</b>                   | <i>Nicholas Hill</i>   |
| <b>Report date and number (eg HYR3)</b> | <i>31<sup>st</sup> October 2013, HYR1</i>  |
| <b>Project website</b>                  | <i>None yet</i>  |

## 1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – Sept) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).

For reasons outlined in section 2, the project start date was delayed until 1st August 2013, with effect on the project end date. The main progress since this date against the agreed timetable has been for activities in the first three months, and includes:

1. Selection of study sites and approvals by relevant local authorities, including recruitment of field staff and relocation to target villages
2. Training of staff for collection of baseline socioeconomic and fisheries indicators.

All project partners convened in Pemba, Mozambique in August 2013 for the purposes of initiating the project and to carry out the first activities detailed in the activity list. This included site visits, discussion with local authorities, training and project planning. During this trip we discussed the development of a locally relevant and meaningful name for the project. “Nosso Mar, Nossa Vida” – which means “Our Sea Our Life” – translates well into the local languages (“Bary-eto nde maichy-eto” in Kimwani), and has been adopted by the local team. As detailed in section 2, there was also some very positive news in relation to project funding, with Bioclimate and AMA being awarded a DFID-GPAF grant for a project focused on improving the income of 540 female fishers in Mozambique, and with the Darwin project team receiving news that our application (as outlined in section 15c of our Darwin proposal) to the European Commission’s (EC) call under the Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP) had been successful. As detailed in section 2, these funding sources will come together under the “Our Sea Our Life” project banner, helping to expand the impact of our Darwin project.

One of the main findings from our site visits were on the impacts of the oil and gas developments in Cabo Delgado on the movement of people (from relocation) between villages. This led us to the conclusion that there was a need to cluster neighbouring villages into management units, and that it would be very hard to have impact on two villages if we were to focus on these two villages alone. The positive funding news provided an opportunity for us to plan accordingly to these findings. Therefore, the Our Sea Our Life project has selected two “clusters” of villages – one to the north of Palma, and one to the south of Palma. Within these clusters, two villages will receive the full set of interventions planned under Darwin, and others will receive the subset of interventions planned by DFID-GPAF for female intertidal fishers. When the EC funding becomes available we will expand the Darwin interventions to the other

villages within these clusters, and add on the additional work packages that are included in the ENRTP proposal.

Local authorities have given their backing to the project, and project staff have been recruited and have now settled into these villages. There are still some logistical challenges as we try to find affordable office space and accommodation for project staff both in the field and in Pemba, owing to the rapid increase in rental prices accompanying the rapid expansion of the oil and gas industries in the area. This has also affected our ability to source a reliable and affordable second hand vehicle, as vehicles are being brought up rapidly by the oil and gas companies. However, AMA have proven to be extremely resilient and resourceful when it comes to tackling these practical issues.

**2a. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

A number of unexpected problems and developments were encountered in the start-up of the project, all of which have been reported in the recent change request. These can be summarised as:

1. Problem – Vivaldino Banze (Executive Coordinator) leaving AMA shortly after we received notification of the Darwin award. Tomas Langa replaced Vivaldino in July, and the organisation went through some restructuring. This was the primary reason for the delayed start date. However, the project team are very happy with the new leadership in Tomas, and feel that AMA is in a very good position now. The delayed start-date had a number of knock-on consequences, including impacting the matched funding from IUCN Fair Coasts Initiative.
2. Unexpected development – dovetailing of Bioclimate and AMA's DFID-GPAF grant for a project focused on improving the income of 540 female fishers in Mozambique. Following extensive discussions between Bioclimate, AMA and other project partners, and following the findings of the August trip, we concluded that we should undertake the Darwin and GPAF projects in proximate and overlapping sites, and manage the activities of both projects as integral components of an enlarged overall effort (Our Sea Our Life), whilst retaining a clear focus on the distinctive outputs and deliverables of the respective projects. The rationale for dovetailing the project activities was:
  - a. The GPAF and Darwin projects are highly complementary in terms of their efforts to tackle poverty and sustainable use of marine resources, and will provide opportunities for efficiencies and value for money by coordinating efforts.
  - b. As AMA is the lead local implementing partner for both projects, it is essential to avoid any potential competition between the projects and ensure AMA staff time is used in the most efficient way possible.
  - c. The findings of the August trip in terms of the rapidly escalating costs for transport and accommodation (as a result of the oil and gas developments) indicated by collaborating and selecting sites that are proximate, we overcome difficulties associated with the remote and disparate locations, and could be more resilient to these financial challenges and the changing landscape.

**2b. Have any of these issues been discussed with LTS International and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?**

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Discussed with LTS:                                  | Yes – by phone                       |
| Formal change request submitted:                     | Yes                                  |
| Received confirmation of change acceptance response. | No – submitted recently and awaiting |

**3a. Do you expect to have any significant (eg more than £5,000) underspend in your budget for this year?**

Yes  No

**3b. If yes, and you wish to request a carryforward of funds, this should be done as soon as possible through the formal Change Request process.** However, it would help Defra manage Darwin funds more efficiently if you could give an indication now of how much you expect this request might be for.

Estimated carryforward request: £17,546. Change request already submitted. This owing to delayed field start-date and therefore spreading the field work over 36 months up to the end of July 2016 (i.e. financial year 4).

**4. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?**

None as yet.

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with LTS International through a Change Request.**

Please send your **completed report by email** to Eilidh Young at [Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message eg Subject: 17-075 Darwin Half Year Report**